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**HUNTON &  
WILLIAMS**HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP  
RIVERFRONT PLAZA, EAST TOWER  
951 EAST BYRD STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-4074TEL 804 • 788 • 8200  
FAX 804 • 788 • 8218

FAX

**TO**                      **NAME:**                      **A. Fortuna**  
                            **FIRM:**                      **Patent Examiner**  
                            **FAX NO.:**                      **571-273-8300 & 571-273-1141**  
                            **PHONE NO.:**                      **571-272-1141**

**PAGES (INCLUDING COVER):**                      **3**

**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW IN MAIL:**                      ☐ Yes ☒ No

**FROM**                      **NAME:**                      **David E. Baker**  
                            **DIRECT DIAL:**                      **804-788-8762**

**MESSAGE**                      **INFORMAL COMMUNICATION RE: EXAMINER INTERVIEW FOR 1/31/2007:**  
                            **Applicants: Bennett C. Ward, et al.**  
                            **Appln. No.: 10/790,494**  
                            **Title: Bicomponent Fiber Wick**  
                            **Filed: March 1, 2004**

**IF PROBLEM WITH TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT OPERATOR AT 804 • 788 • 8583.**

**OPERATOR**

**DATE:**                      **January 30, 2007**  
**TIME:**  
**CLIENT/MATTER NAME:**                      **FILTRONA RICHMOND**  
**CLIENT/MATTER NO.:**                      **61633.001092**

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Attorney Docket No. 61633.001092  
Customer No. 27682

Applicants:	Bennett C. Ward, et al.	Group Art Unit:	1723
Application No.:	10/790,494	Examiner:	A. Fortuna
Filed:	March 1, 2004	Att'y Dkt. No.:	61633.001092
Title:	BICOMPONENT FIBER WICK		

## INFORMAL COMMUNICATION RE EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Date: January 30, 2007

**Ana Fortuna**  
Art Unit 1723  
Voice No. (571) 272-1141  
Fax No. (571) 273-8300

Examiner Fortuna:

As I indicated in the voicemail I left for you this morning, we are sending you a proposed agenda for our 11:00 AM telephone interview on January 31, 2007:

- (1) Introduction of Inventors
- (2) Discussion of claimed bonded fiber technology and comparison of sample to non-woven material similar to that of Abed patent
- (3) Discussion of the following proposed amendment to claim 17:


17. (Currently Amended) A bicomponent fiber wick for use in processing an analyte fluid, the bicomponent fiber wick comprising:

a self-sustaining fluid transmissive body formed from a plurality of bicomponent fibers bonded to each other at spaced apart contact points, the bicomponent fibers collectively defining tortuous fluid flow paths through the fluid transmissive body, wherein each bicomponent fiber has a fiber structure comprising first and second fiber components, each having discrete cross-sectional areas extending continuously along the length of the bicomponent fiber, the first fiber component being formed from a polyamide material, the fiber structure being adapted to provide a predetermined polyamide component ratio equal to a ratio of first fiber component weight per unit volume to overall fiber weight per unit volume wherein the contact points are established between surfaces defined by the first fiber components of the plurality of bicomponent fibers.

Attorney Docket No. 61633.001092

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We look forward to our discussion tomorrow.

By:   
David E. Baker  
Registration No. 42,285

**HUNTON & WILLIAMS, LLP**  
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower  
951 East Byrd Street  
Richmond, VA 23219-4074  
(804) 788-8516 direct dial  
(804) 343-4638 fax

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